

to close.
 in late Monday did the most damage in Cook County. It caused traffic tie-ups but power to more than 270,000 Commonwealth Edison customers, including St. Joseph Hospital and Health Centers in Chicago.
 More than 300 ComEd crews were still re-erecting power lines Tuesday evening as residents concentrated on the damage and concentrated on the damage.
 In Chicago Heights, where wind tore the roof off the Venice Restaurant at 201 S. Halsted, owner Max Linan said it will be at least a week before he can reopen. The storm blew out ceiling tiles and fans, destroyed the restaurant and parking lot, and blew off a large sign outside, Linan said.
 "About 11:50 p.m. when suddenly the building started to shake like we were having a quake," he said. "Then there was a noise like an engine on an airplane. After that, the entire roof comes off the building."
 Ten patrons who were in the restaurant were unharmed.
 In Chicago Heights, all residents were ordered to boil their water after the storm knocked out an electrical transformer that supplied power to the water system, said Ru-

Employees of the Lansing Municipal Airport check out a Piper Warrior aircraft that was overturned by the storm.

fus Fisher, public works director. The boil order was expected to remain in effect for at least 24 hours.

And in Glenwood, falling tree branches downed power lines and temporarily blocked traffic on several side streets. A huge branch of a 150-year-old tree—believed to be the oldest tree in the suburb—narrowly missed hitting a house at 6 N. State St. in Glenwood where Mar-delle Gundlach lives.

"It was close, very close," Gundlach said as she stood outside her home Tuesday morning. The limb fell between her house and her garage, causing what appeared to be only minor damage to both structures.

The storm started in Iowa and Missouri and moved northeast over northern Illinois, bringing heavy rains and causing widespread wind damage, said Art Kessler, a National Weather Service forecaster.

There were scattered reports of pea-size hail, but no tornadoes, Kessler said. High winds were reported across the area between 10 p.m. and midnight, from Kane County to

SEE STORM, PAGE 7



This photo by José Moré

Walter Nabi, of the 2600 block of Howard Street in Evanston, looks over the tree that was toppled by the storm in his yard.

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Piderit decision causes tumult at university

By J. Lynn Allen

TRIBUNE HIGHER EDUCATION WRITER

After a year and a half of raucous battles with faculty and students over budget and academic program cuts, Rev. John J. Piderit announced Tuesday that he will resign as president of Loyola University.

The 55-year-old Jesuit priest, who had aroused anger over his handling of the school's financial problems, said he will stay until June of next year unless a new president is appointed before then. Though Piderit said he is leaving because he will have accomplished his goals at Loyola, he also suggested his departure will help put an end to a difficult period of turmoil.

Despite increasingly public calls for his resignation by a va-

riety of groups at the 130-year-old Jesuit school, Piderit and Loyola Board Chairman Michael Quinlan denied he was being forced out by the Board of Trustees.

"There was no pressure on me" from the board, Piderit said. Quinlan, who is also chairman of the executive committee of the board of McDonald's Corp., said the decision was Piderit's alone.

Nevertheless, members of the board have been taking an unusually close look at the operations of the university in the last several months. Several trustees met with a group of deans in the wake of a board session in early March that was marked by a candlelight vigil held by anti-Piderit protesters in Water Tower Park outside Loyola's downtown executive offices.

The meeting included a "really frank" discussion of the future of the university, including Pide-

SEE LOYOLA, PAGE 2

Downtown crane accident kills construction worker

By Maria Donato and Noah Isackson

TRIBUNE STAFF WRITERS

One construction worker was killed and two were injured Tuesday in a crane accident at a Near North Side construction project.

The 30-year-old man who was killed fell into a shaft or pit about two floors below ground level, said Will Knight, a Chicago Fire Department spokesman. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

"According to preliminary reports, the crane was being raised at the end of the workday when it apparently slipped back. The exact cause of the accident is un-

known and is currently under investigation," said a statement released by Morse Diesel International, the construction manager of the project.

The accident occurred at the River East Center project, a construction site bounded by Illinois Street, Grand Avenue, McClurg Court and Columbus Drive. The project, at 300 E. Illinois St., is a development of MCL Cos. of Chicago. The crane was being operated by Morrow Equipment Co. of Round Lake, one of the subcontractors, according to Morse Diesel.

SEE CRANE, PAGE 2

Chicago Tribune 5/10/00

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about road safety. He said the safety
directors are being asked to double-
check whether their drivers were
licensed properly.

But Serpe acknowledged that
having a safety director does not
eliminate the risk of hiring unqual-
ified truckers, especially at a time
of economic prosperity when truck-
ing companies are desperate to hire
drivers. He said trucking compa-
nies need 50,000 more drivers in the
Chicago area.

"The driver shortage is so serious
that when a company is looking for
a driver and is sent somebody who
allegedly has a valid commercial
driver's license, they will want to
hire the guy," Serpe said.

Gonzalo Mendoza, a former safety
director for Chicago-based Pacella
Trucking, admitted to federal au-
thorities that he helped truckers
obtain their licenses illegally. Pa-
cella officials have said Mendoza
only worked for them briefly and
they were unaware of wrongdoing.

Serpe said the trucking group al-
ready has issued 1,000 of the green
and white decals, which will usual-
ly be posted on the back of a tractor-
trailer.

*Tribune staff writer Todd Lighty
contributed to this report.*



Emergency vehicles line the street Tuesday at 300 E. Illinois St.,
where a construction worker was killed in a crane accident.

Tribune photo by Candice C. Cusic

Crane

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The project covers 13 acres be-
tween Navy Pier and North Michi-
gan Avenue. It will include two 600-
foot apartment towers, three luxury
condominium buildings and a
hotel, a 34-screen movie theater and
dozens of shops.

Police said a crane on the 4th
floor of the building slipped, throw-
ing the victims to the ground. The
identity of the dead man was not re-
leased Tuesday night because his
family had not been notified. He
died of multiple head injuries, Of-
ficer Edward Alonzo, a police spokes-
man, said.

Another worker had a leg injury
and was in fair condition at North-
western Memorial Hospital. A
third man had an unspecified mi-
nor injury and refused treatment,
an official said.

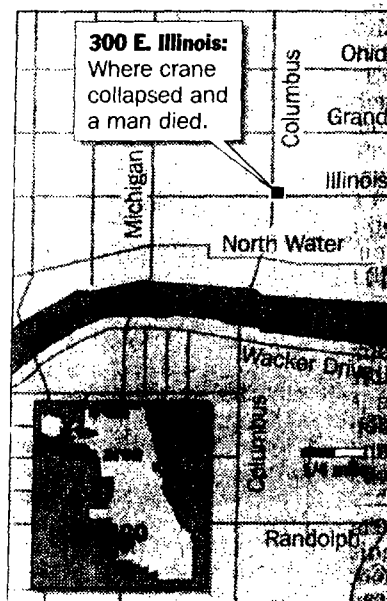
The three workers were remov-
ing some material from the con-
struction site at the time of the ac-
cident, but what happened and how
they were injured remains under
investigation, Knight said Tuesday
evening.

It is not known if the weather was
a factor in the 6:30 p.m. accident,
but it was raining and the wind was
clocked at 22 m.p.h. with gusts up to
31 when the crane slipped, officials
said.

"The worker was on the crane,
about 6 feet off the ground, we don't
know how he fell, if he got caught in
a piece of equipment or if he was...
jumping," said Mary Richardson,
Lowry, city building commissioner.

Cheri Franklin of Chicago was
walking west toward McClurg
Court when she heard a loud noise
and looked up to see what looked
like a bundle of I-beams falling.

A resident of the 35th floor on the
nearby McClurg Court building



Chicago Tribune

said he heard a loud noise and saw a
crane bobbing up and down.

"I heard a big crash. I came out-
side and I saw the crane rocking up
and down. I thought it was going to
break," Rick Stone said.

This accident was the second in
recent months involving a crane at
a Near North Side construction
project.

On Oct. 6 a long horizontal boom
arm of a crane used to build a hotel
at Rush and Illinois Streets col-
lapsed and injured the operator.
Danny's Construction Co., of Shak-
opee, Minn., operated that crane.
Morse Diesel was the general con-
tractor on that project too.

The accident happened at the
Grand Bay Hotel construction site,
part of the North Bridge project
that has three hotels and 500,000
square feet of retail space that in-
cludes a Nordstrom store.

*Tribune staff writers Maura Kel-
ly, Karen Mellen and Joseph Sjos-
trom contributed to this report.*

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